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Office of Community Engagement

Spring 2020

Community Engagement Newsletter - Spring 2020

Juan Ochoa

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Subject: Community Engagement Quarterly Newsletter - Spring 2020
Date: Thursday, June 11, 2020 at 2:06:46 PM Pacific Daylight Time
From: Office of Community Engagement
To: Campus



Spring 2020 NEWSLETTER

[Division of Academic Affairs](#) | [View this email in your browser](#)



Our Vision

is to **foster** teaching, research, scholarship and reflection to inspire CSUSB students to be active citizens and make **life-long commitments to service.**

Director's Message

It is the end of spring quarter...and what a quarter it has been! Our local communities continue to struggle with the spread of COVID-19 and the resulting health and economic impacts. Our campus community continues our efforts to find ways to come together while we are physically apart.

We have also been witnessing (and participating in) protests against police violence and systemic racism across the country. OCE staff stands in solidarity with the African American community in the struggle against racial inequality. We recommit ourselves to dismantle racism by promoting service with the community that respects the dignity and worth of individuals, the value of diversity, and the public good. We will stand with you and not waver for as long as it takes. #blacklivesmatter

Please stay safe and well this summer!

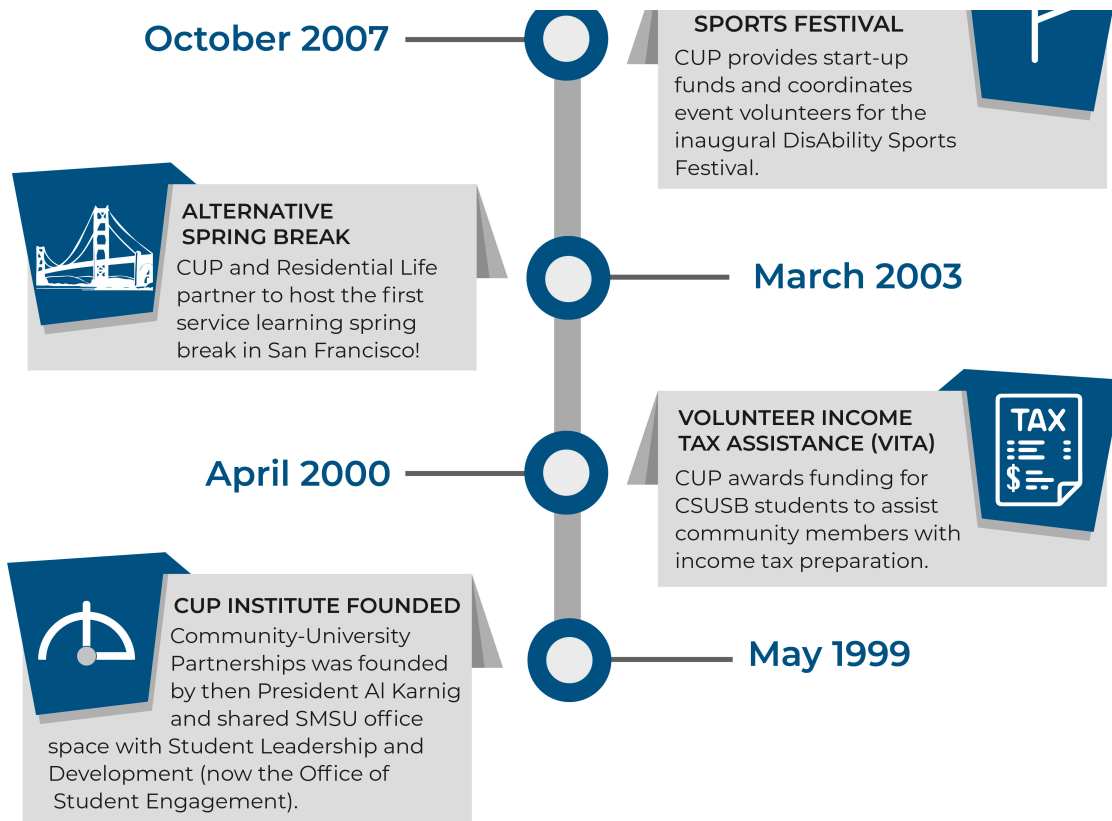
Diane



CELEBRATING 20 YEARS OF SERVICE TO THE COMMUNITY 1999 - 2019

The Office of Community Engagement (OCE) is proud to celebrate its 20th anniversary of service to the community and the impact on student success. We invite you to celebrate all of CSUSB's community partners, who serve as co-educators for our students, and the important work faculty, staff, and students have accomplished in our communities. Here are just a few highlights from our history!





Our annual report will be released soon, so please look forward to a nostalgic review of our 20 years on campus!

Community Engagement **Initiatives**

Service Learning Courses



During the 2019-2020 academic year, 2,004 CSUSB students enrolled in service learning courses offered in multiple departments. There were a total of 154 service learning course sections with enrollment, a noteworthy achievement given that historically Spring Quarter has both the largest number of service learning course sections and the highest enrollment, and many of these experiences did not happen due to COVID-19 restrictions. Thanks to all of the service learning faculty who offered these important high impact practice opportunities for our students!

Number of Service Learning Courses Offered: 154

CSUSB Hours of Service to the Community: 61,210

Total Value of Service: \$1,833,239

Value of a volunteer hour calculated by the Independent Sector.
https://independentsector.org/resource/vovt_details/

CSUSB's President Volunteer Service Award



The CSUSB President's Volunteer Service Award (CPVSA) is an annual recognition of volunteer service from CSUSB's President Tomás D. Morales. The three-tier award (Gold, Silver and Bronze level) provides recognition for CSUSB campus community members' volunteer efforts that contribute to the public good. Thirty Palm Desert Campus students will be recognized this year for contributing a total of 1,735 service hours, and 114 San Bernardino Campus students will be recognized for contributing a total of 7,233 service hours. Six staff members will also be recognized with a CPVSA award.



**150 VOLUNTEERS
RECOGNIZED**

National Volunteer Week #NVW2020



Due to Covid-19 restrictions and the postponement of Coyote Cares Day, OCE wanted to provide an opportunity to celebrate the impact of volunteer service, the power of volunteers to tackle society's greatest challenges, and their ability to build resilient communities.

OCE launched a call for volunteer spotlights through email and social media, encouraging members of the university to share their current volunteer experiences. Submissions included a faculty member who made personal protective equipment for local healthcare workers; a staff member who sewed over 250 face masks for campus and local community members; and a student who delivered food and supplies to elderly residents in her neighborhood.

The outpouring support of CSUSB and community volunteers, rising to the COVID-19 challenge, has been truly heartwarming. We encourage everyone to visit our [Instagram](#) or [Facebook](#) accounts to read more about these individuals who are making a difference!



Covid-19 Resource Guide



OCE's priority is the safety and well-being of our CSUSB campus community and of our local community, especially during the COVID-19 pandemic. A resource guide, based on national and local guidance, was created to provide health information, basic needs resources and volunteer service options for those who need service or want to serve. The resource guide was shared on the OCE website, campus newsletters, Blackboard and social media.

A link to the resource guide is at engage.csusb.edu

Personal Protective Equipment Donation



In response to COVID-19, the Office of Community Engagement donated the personal protective equipment originally purchased for CSUSB's day of service event, Coyote Cares Day. OCE donated N95 masks, nitrile and vinyl gloves to Barstow Community Hospital, St. Bernardine Medical Center, and Loma Linda University Medical Center. The donation is part of a larger community effort to equip healthcare workers with masks and critical protective equipment during a nationwide shortage.

Visit <https://getusppe.org/give/> for PPE donation sites in your community.

Community Engagement Faculty Initiatives

Community Engagement Faculty Grants



46
**FACULTY
AWARDS**



**\$98,000
IN GRANTS**

OCE provides faculty grant opportunities to support community partnership development, faculty professional development and scholarship related to community engagement, service learning, and community-based participatory research. For the 2019-2020 academic year, OCE funded 46 faculty awards for a total of over \$98,000. OCE also supported two part-time Faculty Associates who led professional development events and provided one-on-one faculty consultations.

Community Engagement - Writing Accountability Group



18 Articles Submitted
\$5,400 Awarded for Professional Development

OCE launched the Community Engagement-Writing Accountability Group during Fall Quarter. The program featured weekly scheduled writing timeblocks, individualized coaching, relevant scholarly publications, and information on conference and publication opportunities. Attendees included two tenured faculty, 11 tenure-track faculty and two lecturers. The office awarded more than \$5,400 in professional development funds for the participants' scholarly productivity, with 18 articles submitted for publication and three grant applications submitted!

Faculty *Highlights*

City Nature Challenge



Breanna Putman, Assistant Professor of Biology, partnered with the Natural History Museum of Los Angeles County and the California Academy of Sciences to bring the City Nature Challenge 2020 to the Inland Empire Region!

The City Nature Challenge invited the general public to contribute to the documentation of nature. Current and aspiring scientists, nature and science fans, and people of all ages and backgrounds were invited to observe and submit pictures of wild plants, animals, and fungi using the free mobile app [iNaturalist](#).

Although the COVID-19 restrictions scaled back the challenge, more than 400 contributors documented more than 8,000 observations of wild plants, animals, and fungi found in local neighborhoods, homes, backyards, and even through windows. The challenge embraces a collaborative aspect of sharing observations online with a digital community as participants documented local

biodiversity while following public health guidelines of COVID-19. According to Putman, “It’s great partnering with the public because then they have a stake in their research and what are the current conservation concerns in our region and how they can help.”

Dr. Putman received a Community-Based Research grant from the Office of Community Engagement to coordinate the City Nature Challenge in the Inland Empire.

Oral History Interviews



Dr. Michelle Lorimer’s Oral History course introduced students to the complexities of the current immigration and refugee crisis around the world and in the Inland Empire. The class partnered with Glocally Connected, a Riverside CA nonprofit agency, and with Dr. Selin Yildiz Nielsen, a local expert on the international refugee crisis. Dr. Nielsen co-lead preparatory class sessions and introduced students to interviewees for group oral history projects.

Students worked collaboratively with Glocally Connected to help asylum seekers, volunteers, and the nonprofit’s founders to record their own stories as radio vignettes. Students conducted four interviews with participants, and the interview audio files are stored at CSUSB, Coyote Radio, and Glocally Connected to help immigrants/refugees and local professionals share their stories with the broader community.

Students learned the ethical considerations of privacy, human subjects

protection, interviewing survivors of trauma, and the social justice aspects of oral history in this applied setting. This project was a rich student learning experience that connected students with community partners in ways that benefited both students and members of the local immigrant community.

Dr. Lorimer received an OCE Service Learning Fellowship grant to add this important service learning project to the Oral History course.

Virtual Museum Exhibition Development and Design



Museum Exhibition Development and Design is a cross-listed Anthropology and History course that focuses on introducing students to best practices for displaying historical objects and offering interpretive content for museums and galleries. Students do not only read about these practices -- they actively craft narratives, compose label text, develop interpretive frameworks, and design case layouts.

In past years, the class collaborated with the [CSUSB Anthropology Museum](#) to produce the 2016 exhibition Re|Collect and several smaller exhibits featuring artifacts from Nepal on loan from CSUSB alumnus Sylvia Woodruff (2018).

This year the class is contributing to the development of exhibitions at the [Hi](#)

[Desert Museum](#) in Yucca Valley and the [Los Angeles Natural History Museum](#). In collaboration with the Hi Desert Museum, students are updating three exhibitions: mining history, gems and minerals, and entomology. Students' work with the Los Angeles Natural History Museum will update a Zuni carvings exhibition and create a second on the history of patent medicine, featuring recently excavated glass bottles. Each student is working on two projects during the first seven weeks of the quarter, and will shift to concentrate on one project for the last two weeks, ultimately developing a final project portfolio that will be presented to the community partner. The portfolio will include an interpretive framework in which students will present their idea for an overarching theme of the exhibition, the division of content into themes, the selection of objects on display, and the narrative content, layout, and design of one grouping of objects.

The partner museums will use these ideas to inform their exhibitions, with the possibility that student ideas will directly inform the final exhibition development and design! The partner museums are also open to continuing to work with students on these projects as interns or volunteers at their museums into the future.

Special thanks to Arianna Huhn and ANTH 376/HIST 376 students for their ongoing commitment to community partners and experiential learning!

Virtual Student Interns at Dorothy Ramon Learning Center



CSUSB student interns at the [Dorothy Ramon Learning Center \(DRLC\)](#), a

living repository of California Indian history and cultures in Banning, CA, have continued work on the development of a database on the California Missions that will be utilized by the local Banning elementary school children for their Mission research projects. This work is happening virtually in response to COVID-19 restrictions.

The students are researching the California Missions and compiling Public History Field Reports that contain the appropriate historical materials that are a part of the California Curriculum for Elementary students in their California History academic components.

As the students complete their Field Reports, they will add them to the DRLC server. Each year, dozens of local Banning Elementary School Students utilize both the library and archives at the DRLC to conduct research. This digital collection will provide these students with historically accurate and age appropriate materials. Additionally, it will provide our CSUSB Public History and Social Science students with the unique opportunity of developing a permanent part of the collections.

OCE would like to thank History Professor Dr. Tom Long and the student interns who continue to support community partners during these challenging times.

COVID-19 Updates

The Office of Community Engagement's (OCE) priority is the safety and well-being of our CSUSB campus community and of our local community. In response to COVID-19, our website has added information and resources to continue service learning and volunteering in virtual ways.

To learn more visit, engage.csusb.edu

About our Office

The Office of Community Engagement facilitates service learning, community-based research and volunteer service by engaging students, faculty and community partners in collaborative partnerships that serve the public good. We lead the university-wide culture of community engagement as a high impact practice that contributes to student success.

How will you leave your paw print? 



Office of Community Engagement
5500 University Parkway San Bernardino, CA 92407-2397
Email - leaveyourpawprint@csusb.edu